

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1651
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT ZONES
Satpathy Shri Tathagata

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to replace the SEZs by setting up Special Development Zones (SDZs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government would promote public-private partnerships in the new Zones;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by when these new Zones are likely to be set up and become functional?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

a) to e): There is no such proposal. The Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Act, 2005 and the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006 came into effect from 10th February, 2006 and are currently in operation. SEZs are set up in the private sector or jointly with the State Governments or by the State Governments and its agencies on standalone basis. The SEZ Rules specifically provide that the letter of approval granted to a Developer shall be valid for a period of three years, within which time effective steps shall be taken by the Developer to implement the project.